DEVOTED TO AGRICULTURE AND ALL ITS KINDRED ARTS AND SCIENCES.

Agriculture not only gives riches to a nation, but the only riches she can call her own.—JOHNSON.

VOL. II. SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1850. NO. 20.

S. W. COLE, EDITOR. QUINCY HALL, BOSTON. J. NOURSE, PROPRIETOR.

MASS. HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY'S EXHIBITION.

THE annual show of this association took place last week. The show of flowers and plants was very good, but there was no arrangement to go into this branch extensively, and of course but little attention was paid to it; the floral designs, however, were fine, and formed an important feature in the exhibition.

There was a noble display of fruits, particularly of apples and pears; of the latter there was a much better show than we expected, considering the unfavorable season for this fruit, which caused it to blast and crack more than usual; and where these evils have not happened, the fruit is frequently of inferior appearance. Notwithstanding these disadvantages, there was not only an extensive, but a very good show of pears, the natural result of the persevering efforts of many cultivators in trying numerous varieties, and having them in various soils and locations.

Some varieties of pears have nearly failed of a crop this season, and others, though rather productive, are very small and inferior in quality, owing to an unfavorable season for this rather uncertain fruit. We have had blasting storms while the trees were in blossom, and while the fruit was tender; and the season has generally been cool, and unfavorable to pears, many of which require a warm season to bring them to perfection. There were several new varieties, of very promising appearance.

The exhibition of apples was rather extensive, and the fruit remarkably large and fair. Among them were several plates of new varieties, of fine appearance, but of whose real merit we have not had an opportunity for definite information. We now have so large a list of excellent apples, adapted to all seasons of the year, that new kinds should be introduced for general culture with caution. Such only as have advantages over those now in use, of the same season, should be encouraged.

The show of peaches was not large, but there were several lots of very fine appearance.

The quantity of plums was rather small, but there were some new and valuable kinds.

There were very few grapes of out-door production, but those raised under glass were very fine.

The show of vegetables was excellent, but not very extensive. There was a deficiency in potatoes, owing to the rot. We planted over one hundred varieties, and they were nearly all destroyed, so that we could not get sound ones enough to make a respectable show.

The exhibition was attended by a large number of visitors, who seemed highly delighted with it. This society is in a very prosperous condition; and though awarding numerous liberal premiums, medals, and gratuities, it is still accumulating funds.

MECHANICS' FAIR.

The sixth exhibition of the Massachusetts Mechanic Charitable Association opened on the 11th inst. It is held in Faneuil and Quincy Halls, which are connected by a neat bridge of novel construction, built by Henry Lanergan, of Boston. These spacious halls are well-filled with the very best productions of mechanical skill of almost every description. This show is not distinguished for a large number of new inventions, but a prominent feature is the superior design and skilful execution of a vast number of productions, which gives it a peculiar richness and splendor, never before excelled, and probably never equalled in any former exhibitions of this association, or any other in the country.

This fair is noted for a great variety of articles of decided necessity, convenience, and comfort, as well as of taste, luxury, style, and fancy. The agricultural implements hold a prominent and respectable place. In design, workmanship, neatness, and fine finish, they vie with the best articles in the exhibition.

The whole show is a grand specimen of the ingenuity, skill, enterprise, intelligence, and industry of our New England people, and marks this emphatically as the age of improvement, and this as the peculiarly favored land of industry, skill, and enterprise.

MIDDLESEX CATTLE-SHOW.

This festival came off at Concord, on Wednesday of last week. The day was fine, but rather forbidding in its appearance in the morning, which doubtless kept some persons at home. The number in attendance was tolerably large. The finest part of the show was the ploughing match, which was well contested, on a piece of low land with a heavy soil, uneven surface, and tough sward, which required great strength and good discipline in the team, and skill in the ploughman, to do good work; yet the ploughing was done remarkably well, which, under such unfavorable circumstances, was highly creditable.

Hon. George Boutwell, of Groton, delivered an able address. The subject was the character and influence of agriculture and the mechanic arts.

The show of fruits was very good indeed, but not extensive. There were a few fine specimens of vegetables. There were also but a few articles of domestic manufactures, and they were generally very good. The large fairs take up many of the best productions in this branch.

The show of stock was pretty fair, but not large. There were not so many cattle on the grounds as were exhibited last year. Some of them were fine. The native cattle in this county are mostly of moderate or small size, and generally marked as good milkers.

Only a few swine were shown, but the most of them were fine models for form and symmetry. For some years past, this society has shown some of the finest pigs that we have seen. Only one lot of fowls. No horses.

As we did not attend the dinner, we cannot report the witty speeches and toasts that are usually heard at the festive board on such occasions at old Concord.

The Independent Horse-rake was exhibited by Charles Gill, Esq., of Exeter, N. H., and put in practical operation. It attracted much attention, particularly from the committee on implements, who gave it a complimentary notice, and awarded to Mr. Gill a gratuity of $5.

CATTLE-SHOW AT WORCESTER.

This farmers' holiday took place last week, on Thursday. The day was fine, and the concourse of people that attended was immense, probably not less than ten or twelve thousand people. The large exhibition at Worcester attracted great attention; and its central situation, with railroads diverging in every direction, afford great facilities for travelling to that point.

The ploughing match did not excite much interest; and although this county has a larger number of working oxen than any other in the state, and probably as fine or finer ones, there were on the field only twelve single teams; and the land was so very light and easy to plough, that one horse, or a yoke of steers, with a boy, was sufficient team to do good work. With fine teams, skilful ploughmen, and good implements, the work was, of course, very well done.

The show of cattle was very large, and of almost every description known in this country, and of almost every class. There were calves, heifers, steers, bulls, cows, working oxen, and fat cattle. Of breeds, there were the native, the Durham, Ayrshire, Devon, Creampot, and some others, though they might not be named; and these were mixed and compounded in almost every way, forming all kinds of crosses, so that we should deem it almost impossible to describe some of the varieties, a few generations hence, on a common card. Generally the cattle are large, and well adapted to labor and beef; and some animals were fine models for milkers. But the cattle of this county, generally, do not indicate that milk is the leading object, and perhaps it is not well that it should be. It is a very desirable object, but unattainable, to combine, in the same race, good working, milking, and beef properties. Animals well made for milk will not generally fatten readily; and the animal that is well made for strength, and abounds in muscle, is not well made to secrete milk, and change food into the liquid element.

The show of swine was rather small; less in extent, and not so fine in appearance, as at former shows. Yet some specimens were very good. Only a few sheep. No horses. Why not? There was a good show of fowls, much better than we usually see at cattle-shows.

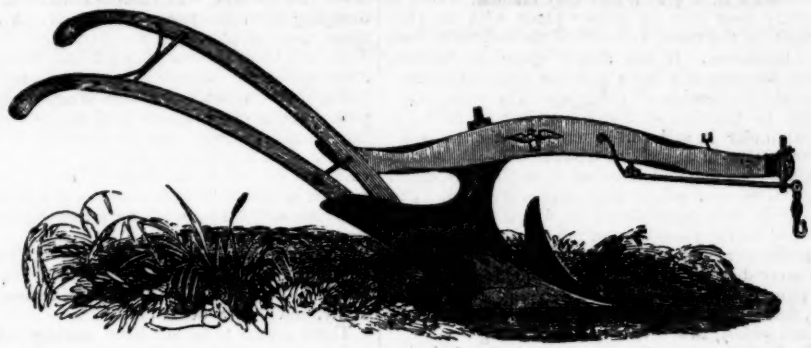
The butter and cheese were of fine appearance; but, for so large an agricultural county, the quantity was rather small.

On the whole, the show was very good, and satisfactory and instructive to the large number of spectators; and it gave ample testimony that the *heart* of the commonwealth is gradually improving in agriculture and its kindred arts.

Rev. Mr. Tracy, of Sutton, delivered the address at the dinner table, which we did not attend, as we wished to spend a few hours in the horticultural rooms. The address was commended as brief, sensible, and instructive. Ex-Governor Lincoln, the president of the society, presided at the table in his usual style of courtesy, pleasantry, and wit.

MAKING STONE FENCE.

With us the motto would be, whenever stones were removed from the field, Put them into a wall. If ten rods cannot be made, make five, and the next time the field is ploughed, and more loose stones appear, make five rods more, but do not throw them into the corners of the fence, nor into the street. As to the kind of wall, we should like to see posts with two wires connected with a wall. If boards are put upon the posts, the wind frequently moves the posts and injures the wall. We feel confident that a wall with wired posts may be made one half a foot thinner than when boards are used, and yet be more durable. The posts might be smaller, and the cost, on the whole, much less. — *Culturist and Gazette.*

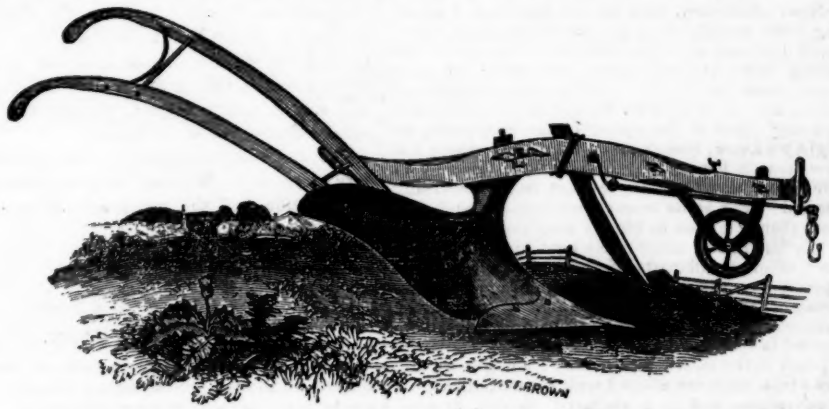


RUGGLES, NOURSE, MASON, & CO.'S NEW STUBBLE PLOUGH.

OF PLOUGHS AND PLOUGHING.

EDITORS OF THE CULTIVATOR: In the Cultivator for March last, there are some ideas of mine upon "Ploughs and Ploughing." I there mentioned that, with such ploughs as I had used, I had not been able to turn stubble land in a manner that seemed to me to be the most desirable, nor to plough so deep a furrow in greensward land as I wished; that I had stated my difficulties to Messrs. Ruggles, Nourse, Mason, & Co., and that they were getting up some new patterns of ploughs with the intention of obviating my difficulties. These gentlemen have now completed three sizes of a new plough for greensward, and two sizes for stubble land. One of the largest of each size I have tested thoroughly, and I am now happy to be able to say that they meet my wants entirely.

The mould-board of the stubble plough is of a considerably shorter construction, and is wider at the heel, in proportion to its length, than that of any good sod plough; and this gives it great turning power, enabling it to take up its loose furrow-slice, throw it *all* over to the desired place, completely inverting as well as pulverizing it, and leaving a clean channel behind for the reception of the next furrow. The castings, both of the mould-board and land side, are considerably higher than is usual in ploughs, which prevents stones and clods of earth from falling over and down between them, and thus aiding to fill up the furrow channel. The beam, immediately forward of the standard-bolt of the castings, is high and arching, giving a clear space of eighteen inches between the beam and the sole of the castings.—When the plough is at work in the furrow, the extra space left between the surface of the ground and the plough-beam, in consequence of the increased height of the latter, effectually prevents the wadding up of stubble, coarse manure, or other impediments, immediately forward of the standard; and thus are avoided those vexations so frequently experienced when ploughs of the common construction are used. In June last, for the express purpose of testing this plough in regard to its ability to keep itself clear from clogging, I spread a dressing of the coarsest kind of long manure over an acre of corn-stubble land, and set the plough at work in furrows eight inches deep. The acre was ploughed, and the manure all covered, without once stopping the plough to clear it, and without any effort on my part to prevent its clogging. With this implement, the ploughman may choose any furrow he pleases, from five to twelve inches deep. The small size of the stubble plough is intended to meet the wants of those farmers who work their stubble lands with light teams. The largest size is easily drawn, in sandy or gravelly loams, by a pair of stout horses or oxen, if the furrow is not more than eight inches deep.



RUGGLES, NOURSE, MASON, & CO.'S NEW SWARD PLOUGH.

The greensward plough is of quite different construction from that of the stubble plough. Its point is long, rising very gradually towards the standard, with a share gradually widening to its full breadth and cut. The plough enters the ground in the form, so to speak, of a long, tapering wedge, lifting the

furrow-slice in a gentle and easy manner, laying it smoothly over into its proper place, with an easy draught by the team, and with little assistance from the ploughman. It has also a space of eighteen inches between the beam and the sole of the castings, which prevents all clogging. The roller is attached to the side of the beam, instead of being placed under it, and consequently it can be made ten to twelve inches in diameter, thus avoiding that constant groaning and laboring upon the axis which are liable to occur where small rollers are used. The dial-clevis and draught-rod, by which the team is attached to the plough, is an improvement, I think, upon the common clevis. Besides being a stronger and more durable attachment, it enables one to set his plough with entire accuracy in any desired furrow, from the shallowest and narrowest to the deepest and widest, that it is capable of taking.

The largest size of the greensward plough is intended for the draught of four cattle. I have used it, and it works well in furrows all the way from six to twelve inches deep, but it delights especially in deep furrows. When set for ploughing a foot deep, the most proper width for it to take is sixteen to seventeen inches; and the width of course lessens with the lessening of the depth. The next size is a three cattle plough, to be used in furrows not exceeding nine or ten inches in depth. The smallest size is a two cattle plough, designed for furrows not exceeding seven or eight inches in depth. The height of beam is the same in all the sizes, and the general form and principles of working are the same; the variations being in the amount of work done, and the force of team necessary to do it.

The accompanying cuts show the general form of these ploughs.

F. HOLBROOK.

Brattleboro', Vt., *Aug.* 12, 1850.
— *Albany Cultivator.*

For the New England Farmer.

PEACH-LEAF CURL.

Mr. Cole: I perceive, in the last number of the N. E. Farmer, that Dr. Brown attributes the curl of the peach leaf to the "cold northerly and easterly winds in the month of May." These views, you say, coincide with your own.

Now, gentlemen, with all due courtesy, I would beg leave to differ from you as to the cause. This peach-leaf curl is no new disease; it has existed for several years, and has shown itself about the same time, (from the middle of May to the middle of June,) and we always have more or less cold north and east winds in the spring of the year; and, for aught we know, these may be an inciting cause; but how does it happen, if they are the immediate or sole cause, that the trees are not more universally affected? For so far as our observation extends, not more than one tree in twenty has shown symptoms of the blight, and those rarely contiguous, but scattered about in all parts of the orchard; and then there appears to be little or no difference in the prevalence of the disease in any location. If your theory were correct, we might expect to find trees more affected in elevated positions, or near the sea-shore, exposed to the most chilling blasts; and yet we find those trees no more affected with the curl than trees more remote, and in a sheltered position, or even trees trained to a high board fence, with a southern exposure.

We should think the curled leaf described by Dr. Brown was more virulent than we are accustomed to in this region, and somewhat analogous to the "yellows," for he says, "The leaves have been gradually dropping from the trees to this time, (Aug. 1,) and those now on the trees are from new shoots," &c. The curled leaf has not thus affected trees that have come under our observation; and we challenge any one *now*, having no knowledge of the fact, to designate a tree in our orchards (and we have more than three hundred trees) that has been affected with the blight. We know of no instance in which the disease has proved fatal; it undoubtedly retards the growth of the tree in a measure, but it is of short duration, and the trees put forth new foliage, and the second growth is vigorous.

The "yellows," if we understand it, (for we have no experience in the matter,) causes the fruit to ripen prematurely, sends out new shoots, causes a general decay, and speedy death ensues.

There seems to be but little analogy between the yellows and curled leaf; but as to the cause and remedy, we are as much in the dark as we are of the present locality of "the lost tribe of Israel." C.

Pembroke, *Sept.* 7, 1850.

Remarks. — The "yellows" in peaches is a permanent, and generally a fatal disease, which may be propagated by contagion. The "curled leaf" is a temporary disease, that affects the foliage. It is of a transient nature, and it only affects the tree as would the destruction of the foliage from any other cause. This season our most healthy trees were severely affected with this leaf disorder, and it came upon them suddenly, like a blast. We think it comes too suddenly, and operates in too cool and stormy weather to be the effect of insects; hence we infer that it is a blast from unfavorable weather.

On our grounds, which are near the sea, almost every tree was affected with the curled leaf, and among them many healthy young seedlings, that are very hardy against cold weather. The few that escaped were evidently more hardy against the blast than others; for one kind, that was peculiar in this respect, escaped in several situations, though amidst others which were much injured. We had several early varieties, that were only one year from the bud, and yet they blossomed full; among them was Hall's Down-Easter, a very hardy kind against cold weather. The effect of the curled leaf was the destruction of the fruit on all but Crawford's Early Melocoton: this escaped the disease, though in a row beside those affected, and it bore fruit. The fruit on older trees was not so much affected, though the curl was equally destructive to the foliage.

The views of correspondents on this subject are very acceptable. We may learn important facts by investigation and the expression of various opinions. — Ed.

For the New England Farmer.

SPENT TAN BARK.

Mr. Editor: Will you, or some of your correspondents, inform a young farmer whether tan bark can be made valuable as a manure; and if so, what is the best mode of applying it? I should think to pile it up into a heap, and mix swamp muck, ashes, and put on all the sink-water and soap-suds; every farmer has a large quantity of this material. One of my neighbors is a tanner, and has a large quantity

of this spent bark, and wishes me to try some of it. Now, if any one of our good farmers will inform me, I shall be much obliged.

Will some of our mechanics have the goodness to give a plan of a sweep horse-power? I wish to build one in my wood-house to saw my wood with.

Very respectfully yours,
B. F. CONANT.

LYME, N. H.

REMARKS. — Mix spent tan bark in layers with liberal quantities of lime, ashes, potash, or other alkalies, and let it remain until it becomes old and mellow, losing its *tannic acid*, or astringent principle. This may require a year or two. The preparation of a compost, as mentioned by our correspondent, will be a good mode, but it must remain some time, that the tan may become partially decomposed, and lose its astringency.

If tan be thrown into a heap not so deep as to protect the centre from the modifying influences of heat, air, and rain, it will become partially decomposed in a few years, and make a good manure, particularly for trees and shrubs; but it will be the better by mixing lime or ashes with it, and forming a compost with mud, peat, or loam, and a little animal manure. Soap-suds, sink-water, and urine will make valuable additions to any compost heap. — ED.

For the New England Farmer.

ON RAISING PLUMS.

FRIEND COLE: In No. 17 of your paper, I noticed an article under the caption "To protect Plums," in which the writer informs us he once owned a farm two years, and had had some experience in the culture of the plum. The first year he had no ripe fruit. The second year he hired a man to trim his orchard, who inquired if he should trim the plum-trees: he replied, no; he had concluded to cut them down, as they bore no fruit; but being told they would bear well if trimmed while in full bloom, he consented to let them stand, and had them trimmed accordingly. To his astonishment he had a great supply of fruit of the best quality for two years, when he disposed of his farm; and he goes on to say, he had no doubt, by pruning as above described, they would continue to bear as long as they lived, and that the pruning added to their longevity; that, instead of its being the insects which cause the plums to fall, it was owing to the top of the tree being too large.

I should suppose, by the above, that its author was not acquainted with that species of insect which destroys so much fruit of different kinds, especially the plum; if he had been, he would not have advanced such crude notions as the above.

In the same paper, Mr. J. Day, of Boxford, states that he saved his plums by applying salt to the earth around the trees as far as the branches extend; in one case, he put a peck of salt to one tree. I think if he applies the same quantity another year, he will find neither plum nor tree alive. I judge by what I have seen in this place, of the application of salt for three years, without saving a plum, but to the injury of the trees.

In this town there is an unusual quantity of plums this year, although their quality is somewhat injured by cracking; some kinds rot bad also. Is not our good crop owing to an open winter, such as the last, which destroys many insects? and to the late and wet spring? Some have syringed their trees with salt brine, and others with sulphur water, and all have an abundance of plums.

Being in the employ of Allen Rowe, he desired me to take care of his plum-trees. I consented, and commenced syringing them, soon after the fruit began to set, with sulphur water and whale-oil soap; but the practice which was most successful, and best adapted, in my opinion, to stop the ravages of the *curculio*, was *shaking the trees*, while a cloth the size of a sheet is held under the branches completely around the trees. I went through the operation for weeks, of shaking, sometimes once and sometimes thrice a day. The last time I found any curculio was the 18th of July, up to which time I destroyed more than one hundred and fifty of them. This is the first year that plums have been perfect on the trees. Smith's Orleans cracks some, and the Washington rots on the trees, owing, perhaps, to the season being unusually wet. The Beurre Diel pear cracks bad on the quince and on the pear stocks.

From plums put in a vial August 1st, that contained the larva, there are now perfect curculios.

Potatoes are rotting very much.

Yours respectfully,
BENJAMIN BOYNTON, JR.

REMARKS. — Pruning plum-trees will cause them to produce finer crops; but the pruning should be done in the same way as that of the peach, by *heading in*. All stone fruit should be pruned in this way, excepting a few limbs may be cut at the trunk while the tree is young, to give it proper height and form. — ED.

For the New England Farmer.

PLOUGHS.

MR. EDITOR: As I was passing through the city of Poughkeepsie, on the east bank of the Hudson, I noticed a plough with a mould-board about eighteen inches long, (or half the usual length,) and with but one handle, with a pin about twelve inches long through the upper part. I inquired of the proprietor of the store before which it was placed, the purpose for which it was there. He answered, "*To be sold.*" I asked if such ploughs were salable in that region; he said, "Yes, there was no demand for any other." They had sometimes attempted to sell the ploughs made in Massachusetts, with two handles, and long mould-boards, but the farmers there did not like them. On looking at the land in and about the city, I could not see that it varied essentially from the land in the counties of Norfolk and Worcester; where, I am confident, ploughs of this description would be thrown one side, as of no value. How does it happen that cultivators of the soil are so dilatory in adopting improvements? If I do not mistake, these cast-iron, short mould-boards were first introduced by Wood, of Western New York, for which a patent was obtained about thirty years since, a renewal and further extension of which has been sought the past season. But that they can be as valuable, and as conveniently managed with one handle as with two, is to me highly improbable. I confess I was struck with astonishment, that there should be a region within one hundred miles of New York or Boston, where modern improvements had so imperfectly penetrated. I had supposed the *Eagle* of Ruggles & Co., and the *Centre Draught* of Prouty, had taken possession, more or less, of every corner of our land.

Sept. 10, 1850.

For the New England Farmer.

THE LATE WILLIAM STICKNEY.

To the Editor of the N. E. Farmer: The grave has closed over another of the farmer's friends. In the bosom of his mother earth sleeps peacefully, now, one who, a short month ago, walked in the height of health and strength, among his growing crops, and had his hopes, and his fears, his calculations, and his disappointments. Now, still in his narrow bed, all hopes and fears, all forethought and all regret, are merged in a changeless, and, we humbly trust, a happy certainty.

William Stickney was a farmer to his heart's core. Amid all the excitement of a city life, and the fascinations of business enterprise, his thoughts ever turned, with unvarying constancy, in their search for comfort, to the hill-side where roamed his noble Devons; to the vale where pastured the gentle South-Down; where grew the tasselled corn and the waving wheat.

Thither, as a bird to her nest, he sped to lay down care at the gate, and to call up all the cheerfulness of other days. The care-worn man became a hopeful, free-hearted youth, when his foot pressed the greensward of his mountain home. And the echoes of the hills welcomed, and returned the gleeful laugh of the man that yesterday was the thoughtful, word-sparing merchant of State Street.

It was as a breeder that Mr. Stickney had especial claims upon the grateful remembrance of the farmer. His Devons, which he has imported and bred in their purity, will challenge comparison with any other herd of this breed in the country; while his judicious crosses upon the celebrated "Creampots" of Col. Jaques, have furnished grade-animals, that will compare at the pail with the milky Short-horns. The older cows of this herd yield from twenty-three to thirty quarts of milk per day, at the height of their flow.

The South-Downs of his importation and purchase also rank with any flock that has come under my notice.

In his stock of swine, however, there is no one in the country, so far as I am informed, that pretends to a rivalry.

The beautiful Suffolk, the favorite breed of the late king of England, and also of the present farmer-prince; the solid and substantial Middlesex; the clean-limbed, kind-feeding Essex, may all be seen in his pens at Westminster, Vt., and will weary the nicest judgment with their strong and conflicting claims to superiority. Tired at last with the task that is ever beginning anew, the doubtful purchaser or judge assures himself to a certainty, by selecting all the three.

It was of a Suffolk sow, of Mr. Stickney's importation, that our friend, of world-wide celebrity as a breeder, (and an old-fashioned gentleman, let me add,) Col. Jaques, of the Ten Hills Farm, advised Mr. Webster as follows: "Mr. Stickney has now imported a sow, from which we may form a breed that will defy the world." In this opinion, Mr. Webster, upon a careful inspection, coincided.

Col. Jaques is at work with the models now, but the moulds are at Mr. Stickney's farm.

How much comfort have not these humble but useful animals afforded to the enterprising and enthusiastic farmer who has gone from us, as they grew under his watchful eye, models of form! and how cheering to the good heart, now still, that to beauty was added utility!

If we rear a column to him who has devastated a province, and scorched the teeming earth from horizon to horizon into the sterility of a desert, consistency claims that we should not thus mark our appreciation of the just and the good, who feed the hungry and clothe the naked, by bringing within their reach the best and most economical means of supply. To these men is erected a column of blessings from grateful hearts, that overtops the pyramids, for it reaches heaven, and will outlive them, for it endures as long as want and gratitude exist.

To the inventor of the cotton gin, which so materially reduced the expense of cotton-cleaning, and consequently of the cloth, how grand a pile of gratitude has been built by thankful hearts, that never knew his name! Hastening home with the speed of the wind, to share some new-found joy or sudden sorrow of those dear to us, we invoke a blessing on him who harnessed the resistless power of steam, to be our fleet, yet docile coursers. Unconsciously to ourselves, we pay this silent tribute to a benefactor.

And hereafter, sir, when these improved animals shall have driven out of reach the hungry, unthriving beasts that, without adequate return, eat up the substance of the poor, and shall furnish to him comfortable subsistence for himself and his family at light expense, let then the "blessing of him that was ready to perish" be the monument of William Stickney.

W. S. K.

For the New England Farmer.

EARLY MATURITY OF FOWLS.

Mr. Cole: The subjoined paragraph has been going the rounds of the papers, as giving a fact of unusual occurrence:—

"In Newark, N. J., a gentleman has two chickens which began to lay when four months old, two months sooner than usual."

I have met with it so frequently, that it has induced me to offer the result of my own stock's valuable qualities. About the first of last March, I gave half a dozen eggs, a cross between the Shanghae and the Black Poland, to Mr. William Hillman, of Prince Street, Boston. They all hatched out on the 25th of the same month, and one of the pullets—the only pullet from the eggs, I believe—laid on the 9th of August, and laid an egg daily *for the next fourteen days*, without intermission. It will be noticed that she was only four months and fourteen days old when she laid her first egg. In my own yard I have pullets of the same cross, hatched from the 5th to the 11th of April last, that have laid for some days; while I have full-blood Shanghaes of both the Forbes and Marsh fowls, White Dorkings, Bolton Grays, and Black Polands, of the same age, that do not yet bear fruit. The inferential fact deduced from these statements seems to be, that this particular cross show *earlier maturity* than the full-blood fowls exhibit. What is the experience of others?

I. F. S.

Somerville, *Sept.* 12, 1850.

For the New England Farmer.

WINTER WHEAT IN MAINE.

Mr. Cole: That Maine has become satisfied it is too expensive to *go to New York to mill*, is becoming quite evident, from the effort making to raise her own bread. Several hundred bushels of winter wheat were sown last fall in this state, and scarcely has a failure been known, under good management, of realizing a good, and in many instances a very large crop, ranging from fifteen to fifty bushels to an acre. Much has been sown the present fall; in some sections nearly every farmer has tried a little, from

one to ten bushels; and even I have heard of some who have sown from fifteen to twenty-five bushels. Seed has now become very scarce, and many will not be able to obtain it, unless they make use of wheat obtained from the west for grinding, which will not be likely to succeed so well as the Kloss or Bluestem variety, which is mostly raised, and believed to be the best adapted to the climate of Maine. Should the next season prove as favorable as the last for winter wheat, a large amount will be raised, furnishing seed in abundance, and much to manufacture into flour, superior to that generally obtained from abroad.

A MAINE FARMER.

A MACHINE WANTED.

Among the innumerable inventions which have rendered the present age celebrated, we have not found or heard of one that is just what we need for hulling barley. There have been several invented, which promised, for a time, to work well; but either they were not durable, or did not work in all respects so perfectly as was wished, or they were too expensive. Now, hulled barley is an article that would come into extensive use and demand, could it be provided cheaply. We do not by this mean what is sold at the apothecaries' shops under the name of "*pearl barley*," but the barley deprived merely of its hull. It is then a wholesome, nutritious article for scups and puddings, and it would supply the place of rice very extensively, provided it could be prepared at a cheap rate. Several years ago, the Kennebec County Agricultural Society offered a pretty generous premium for a machine that would hull barley or oats in an expeditious and perfect manner.

Two or three machines were brought forward, but none of them exactly came up to what was desired. The best one that was offered was the invention of a couple of young men east of this, whose names we do not recollect. It was made, if we mistake not, in this manner: A wheel, say a foot and a half in diameter, and three inches thick, was filled with board nails, (cut nails,) with their points projecting outwards. This was hung on an axis, with a case or shell, which shell was also full of similar nails, with their points projecting inwards. The wheel was made to revolve with great speed, and the barley, which was fed in by means of a hopper, was thus subjected to a terrible scratching among the nails.

This would hull admirably for a short time; but the nails soon grew dull, and needed to be replaced very often, and hence it was not used long. We used barley that was hulled in it, and found it to be excellent.

Cannot some Yankee invent a machine for this business that will be cheap, efficient, and durable? If so, let him speak. — *Maine Farmer.*

GRAPES.

It seems now to be pretty well settled that large portions of our country are eminently calculated for the culture of the grape. Already, in the vicinity of Cincinnati and St. Louis, large vineyards are established, and large quantities of wine annually manufactured. The great inquiry of interest connected with this enterprise is for native grapes of good qualities. The foreign varieties fail in this country, and growers have as yet but two varieties, the Isabella and Catawba.

Mr. Longworth, of Cincinnati, has repeatedly advertised for cuttings of native grapes. He has received from various sources over three hundred specimens, which he has tried, and has found among them all only four or five that he thinks will prove to be good wine or table grapes. A little attention to our wild grapes may discover some new varieties that would prove to be valuable. We have spoken of this subject as an introduction to our acknowledgments to W. Choate, Esq., of Derry, for some very large, nice, and early grapes. We should doubt whether the variety would ever be of the first value as a table grape, but it seems to us to possess qualities that would render it valuable as a wine grape. The specimens sent us, however, were by no means bad to take. We append the statement of Mr. C. with regard to the grape and the effect a change to a richer soil has had upon it. We would recommend that Mr. Choate should manufacture some wine from it, if he has not already, and test its quality.

"The sample which I send you is from a native vine, which was transplanted from the woods to my garden six years since. It has produced abundantly with cultivation, and has become about thirty days earlier than the original stock, and fifteen days earlier than any other in this place, and very much larger. Some have measured three inches in circumference. Of the quality, you will judge."— *Granite Farmer.*

CELLARS.

Probably one of the chief causes why vegetables of certain kinds, particularly carrots, beets, and turnips, rot so soon after being deposited in the winter bins, is the want of proper care in ventilating the cellars in which they are deposited. The Germans, who are famed for their exemplary domestic economy, are rigidly circumspect in this particular. In all or most of their houses there is a communication maintained between the cellar and the principal chimney, in order to facilitate the escape of the noxious and stagnant gases engendered by the vegetable and other contents. It is a well-known fact that the air in cellars, from its rapid deterioration and impregnation by nauseous miasma, soon becomes highly deleterious to health; and to this fact, doubtless, is attributable, in a great measure, the almost uninterrupted ill health of many families among us, both in town and country. — *Berkshire Culturist.*

NEW HAMPSHIRE WINE. — We had not supposed that there was a drop of grape wine manufactured in the state; but were agreeably disappointed, the other day, by receiving from Mr. Conant, of Milford, a half dozen bottles of delicious wine, manufactured by himself. It is a perfectly pure article, no alcohol having been put into it, in any shape, during its manufacture. Many friends have tasted it with us, and all unite in pronouncing it A No. 1. — *Granite Farmer.*

HINTS ABOUT MANURES.

One of the most important things that should claim the attention of the farmer, is the management of his stables and yard; and yet how much are these neglected! Did farmers but know their interest, they would devote more time to these. Two very valuable portions of manures, and which are great promoters of the growth and fructility of vegetation, are uric acid, and the ammonia which is generated. These, being volatile, speedily evaporate, unless preventive means are adopted. Frequently have I noticed large yards of manure exposed to the scorching sun and drenching rains. Little thought the

owners that the most valuable portion was being evaporated and washed away. One half the quantum in bulk, to which the proper and necessary attention had been paid, would have been more valuable. My mode and management of the yard, &c., being different, and, as I think, entirely superior to any I have observed, I give it for the benefit of your readers. The whole yard containing the manure should be under cover. It should be large enough to contain, besides the manure, lime, charcoal dust, braize, sawdust, or spent tan — the charcoal, if practicable, and road scrapings, loam or dirt dug from fence rows, of each a heap, large or small, in proportion to the quantity of manure likely to be made. The bottom of the yard should be hollowed out, in a partially concave manner, in order to prevent the escape of all liquids; this should be covered with a slight coating of charcoal dust, and then each time you remove the manure from your stables, which should be at least once a week, you should spread it evenly over the yard, cover it with another thin coating of charcoal, one of lime, and finally with dirt. The heap should be occasionally sprinkled with common salt, pickle or fish brine, and well moistened with all the soapsuds, &c., you can save and collect. The lime assists the decomposition, the earth becomes permeated and impregnated with the generated ammonia, and hence becomes manure. The charcoal retains the uric acid, and whatever other volatile portions that would otherwise escape. The salt so acts upon the seeds of weeds, &c., that are in the manures, as to prevent their germinating when hauled out into the field, and the soap-suds, &c., besides aiding the "manure making" process, prevents the heap from "*fire fanging.*"

E. S. A. P.

— *Dollar Newspaper.*

ALL ABOUT APPLES.

Picking Winter Apples. — The usual time of picking winter apples is the last of September, or the fore part of October; many leave them until the middle of October, which improves the flavor, though they do not keep so well. In order to pick them, some take a small basket in the tree, fill it, and then let it down by means of a rope, which will upset the basket. As a better mode, some recommend placing bags or piles of hay under the tree to throw the apples on; the hay to be so formed that the apples will roll off as soon as it strikes; but I would recommend to fruit-gatherers the machine called a "fruit-gatherer," an article by which a man is enabled to pick the fruit while standing on the ground, and also much faster than in any other way. The apple should be pulled so as to retain the small stem only; and to do this it is necessary that the apple should be pulled in a right line with the stem. If the apple is twisted a little, it will come off easy without the leaf.

Preserving Winter Apples. — After picking in the fall, the apples should be kept in some cool shed until the weather becomes so cold as to render their removal to the cellar necessary, in order to keep them from freezing; for it is heat and moisture that hastens their decay. Apples that are to be kept long must be kept cool and dry. A cellar which has ice in one part of it is desirable. We have always found them to keep best by having hanging shelves for their reception.

Another Mode. — To keep Apples for Spring Use. — The following, judging from experience, I believe to be a very efficient mode of keeping apples: They are to be kept in chaff. First put a layer of chaff sprinkled with quicklime over the bottom; then a layer of apples, followed by another stratum of chaff and lime, and so on until the cask is filled. In regard to this method, the editor of the *Genesee Farmer* says, —

"It is well known to all those who have been in the practice of burying apples in heaps, that the fruit comes out in the spring much fresher, and oftener flavored than it does when kept in open bins in the cellar — a part of the flavor, in the latter case, doubtless evaporating. This method has all the advantage of burying, with another which we will explain. When one apple among many in a bin rots, the adjoining ones are contaminated; and not unfrequently a mass of rottenness occurs, surrounded by much sound fruit. Now the use of the lime is to absorb the gases generated by the putrefaction, and prevent such *leaven* from spreading."

It does not require much lime; less than a quart for a barrel is sufficient.

Apples for Stock. — As there are always at this time of the year apples lying under the trees rotting, perhaps a few remarks in regard to feeding them to stock, will not come amiss to some of your readers.

They may be turned to profit by feeding them to hogs, cows, horses, and sheep, as they are admirably adapted to promote the thrift of stock generally. Some have imbibed a very strong prejudice against feeding them to cows; but the idea that cows fed on them will shrink their milk, is altogether absurd; that is, when fed in a judicious manner, with ripe, well-matured apples. I have no doubt that if fed too freely, when the food taken is of a succulent and fermentable nature, it will be likely to produce fever; but overfeeding with potatoes, &c., will be just as likely to prove injurious. As to the quantity which should be given a common-sized cow, I would not recommend more than a peck to half a bushel, according to the appetite of the animal. This amount will answer the purpose of a liberal feeding with hay and grain.

LEONADE.

— *Dollar Newspaper.*

HARVESTING ROOTS.

It is a great error to suppose that roots, such as beets, turnips, carrots, &c., when intended for stock-feeding, should be housed early. It is, on the contrary, much better to let them remain out till the weather becomes quite severe. A heavy frost does not injure the turnip, if it is in the soil. I have known the ground to *freeze* quite hard before their removal, and no injurious consequences resulted from the circumstance. And beside, the growth of the turnip, after the weather becomes cold, is much more rapid than during the milder season. Cabbages, like turnips, are also very essentially benefited by remaining out, even till snow falls. Some, indeed, allow them to remain out all winter; but this is a pernicious practice, for although they are liable to become diseased, and rot, if they are too early removed to the cellar, yet it is always well to have them under cover, in order that they may be "available" when wanted for use.

H.

— *Germantown Telegraph.*

Men who know the same things are not long the best company for each other. But bring to each an intelligent person of another experience, and it is as if you let off water from a lake, by cutting a lower basin. It seems a mechanical advantage, and great benefit it is to each speaker, as he can now paint out his thought to himself. We pass very fast, in our personal moods, from dignity to dependence. And if any appear never to assume the chair, but always to stand and serve, it is because we do not see the company in a sufficiently long period for the whole rotation of parts to come about. — *Emerson.*

CATTLE TIE.

BULL RING.

The cattle tie is a very convenient chain for confining cattle in the stables. The large ring moves up and down the stanchion or post. When not in use, it is hung upon a pin in the stanchion, above the animal's neck. On confining the animal, the chain is dropped astride his neck, and the T end is run through one of the small rings, according to the size of the animal's neck, where it remains fast.

This fastening is cheap, neat, durable, convenient, and secure; it is also the most comfortable way of confining an animal to a post, as the chain easily plays up or down, according to the motion of the animal, in eating, lying down, and rising. The old mode of fastening animals with bows is discarded by those farmers who know the superiority of the tie chain.

The bull ring is made very neatly. It opens on a hinge, and is fastened with a screw, all smooth and even with the ring, as may be seen in the cut. This ring is easily inserted into the nose of the bull, by punching the cartilage between the nostrils. The most savage and refractory bull becomes tame and submissive on having this neat and simple attachment, as the attendant has complete control over him, and he may be led by the nose as readily as the most servile politician.

WORCESTER HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITION.

We had the pleasure of visiting this show last week, and we found that this young association, in some departments, outrivalled some of her older sisters. The show of fruit was extensive and excellent. There were not so many pears as we find at the show in this city, or in Essex county; but this branch was respectable in extent, and in quality equal to any thing to be found in any section. Some pears are fairer in that section than in this, being less exposed to cold storms and sea breezes. The Bartlett pears are much finer in that region; the Seckel is generally inferior, the same as it is here.

The display of apples was large, and very fine in appearance. Among them were many nameless varieties, very fair and beautiful; but their real merits are but little known to the public. We hope that the committee will examine into the qualities of all valuable varieties, and introduce them to the public under an appropriate name, and with a definite description. In a new association, the officers have a great deal of labor on their hands, if they discharge their duty so as to promote the good of the community.

The show of peaches was very fine and large, and among the largest and handsomest were many new seedlings. Worcester possesses one of the finest locations in the world for fruits; her soil is congenial to their production, and these natural advantages are seconded by numerous enterprising and intelligent cultivators. A combination of these favorable circumstances will produce wonders, and cause the hills and dales to blossom with beauty, and smile with plenty.

AN AGENT TO DECOMPOSE OLD TAN.

Messrs. Editors: Observing in your paper an inquiry for an agent to decompose old tan in three months, permit me to submit the following mode: —

Make an admixture of lime and salt in the following manner: Common salt is composed of chlorine and sodium; and if three bushels of shell lime, *hot from the kiln*, be mixed with one bushel of salt, it will combine with the chlorine, and form chloride lime, thus setting free the soda, which combines with the carbonic acid from the atmosphere, and forms carbonate of soda. Both chloride of lime and carbonate of soda are capable of decomposing woody fibre or other organic matter better than lime; and in doing so, unlike lime, they do not drive out the ammonia, and are therefore preferable to lime. Shell lime is much better than stone lime.

The mixture should be turned every other day for ten days, and then mixed with the tan, at the rate of four bushels per cord, and in four months it will be fully decomposed.

This mode, for cheapness, quickness, and thorough decomposition, in my opinion, cannot be excelled. All that is asked for it is a fair trial. I respectfully submit this, hoping that it will be favorably received.

Yours, &c.,
JOHN W. GULICK.

— *Exchange.*

Joy and Grief. — It is notorious to philosophers, that joy and grief can hasten and delay time. Locke is of opinion, that a man in great misery may so far lose his measure as to think a minute an hour; or in joy, an hour a minute.

Domestic Department.

Domestic Training. — Permit us to say to those mothers who interest themselves in the education of their children, Be assiduous early to plant domestic taste in the minds of your daughters. Let your little girl sit by your side with her needle. Do not put her from you when you discharge those employments which are for the comfort of the family. Let her take part in them as far as her feeble hand is capable. Teach her that this will be her province when she becomes a woman. Inspire her with a desire to make all around her comfortable and happy. Instruct her in the rudiments of that science whose results are so beautiful. Teach her that no selfish gratification, but the good of a household, the improvement of even the humblest dependant, is the business of her sex. When she questions you, repay her curiosity with clear and loving explanations. When you walk out to call on your friends, sometimes take her with you; especially if you visit the aged, or go on errands of mercy to the sick and poor, let her be your companion. Allow her to sit by the side of the sufferer, and learn those nursing services which afford relief to him. Associate her with you. Make her your friend. Purify and perfect your own example for her sake. And while you mingle with domestic training, and with the germ of benevolence, a knowledge of the world, of books, to which it will be a sweet privilege to introduce her, should you be able to add not a single fashionable accomplishment, still be continually thankful in shielding her from the contagion of evil example.

Rice Balls. — Pour upon half a pound of rice three pints of boiling milk, and boil it with a little cinnamon, sugar, and lemon peel, until it is quite tender; allow it to remain until it is cold, and then make it into balls. Beat up two eggs, roll the balls in it, and afterwards in grated bread crumbs; fry them in lard, drain them on a piece of paper, and serve them up covered with sifted sugar.

Rice Fritters. — Slice the rind of a lemon, and boil it in milk, with sugar enough to sweeten it, and a cup of rice. When the rice is quite soft, take it out; beat up the rice with a glass of brandy, shape it into fritters, brush them with yolks of eggs, cover them with bread crumbs, fry them in butter, and serve them up with lemon juice squeezed over them.

Youth's Department.

Economy is due our Employers. — "Waste not, want not," is a good old proverb. "He that is faithful in little, is faithful also in much." A person who takes no care of the materials committed to his hands by his employer, will never duly husband his own property. Economy and wastefulness are habits that will influence us in all things, both when we are engaged about our own substance, or that of another. To waste another's goods is the same as to rob him. The loss in both cases is equal, and the principles whence they spring very much alike. The man who takes care of his employer's goods is sure to look after his own, and thus is on the road to prosperity. It would be difficult to calculate the immense loss of property that every year occurs from carelessness and want of economy. Some persons are worth nearly half their wages more than others, because they never injure or waste any thing. The employer being wealthy, or the stock abundant, is no excuse for carelessness. A loss is a loss, and a robbery is a robbery, whether taken from the heap of the miser, or the smaller store of the indigent. "Gather up the fragments, that nothing may be lost," is a divine command. Heaven allows nothing to be destroyed. There has not been a single drop of water wasted from the creation until now. The decomposed elements of last autumn are the aliment of our present spring. Economy, rigid economy, is one of the laws of nature; and we shall not realize "the good time coming" until we have a careful and economical world. Let this spirit prevail, and not only will the master be saved from loss, but, in many instances, the servant will rescue himself from the union.

Health Department.

Deafness. — James Yearsley, an English surgeon, has discovered, according to the Medical Examiner, a curious and efficient mode of relief for deafness resulting from scarlet fever, &c., in cases where the drum of the ear has been broken. It is simply to moisten a small pellet of raw cotton, and gently push it down the passage of the ear till it reaches the drum at the bottom; adjusting it till it produces the best hearing. This adjusting is necessary, else it may make the deafness at first only greater. Moisture is indispensable. The cotton should be changed every morning. Many other cases are cited in proof.

Cure for Hydrophobia. — At Udina, in Friule, a poor man, lying under the frightful torture of hydrophobia, was cured with some draughts of pure vinegar, given him by mistake, instead of another potion. A physician of Padua got intelligence of this event at Udina, and tried the same remedy upon a patient at the hospital, administering to him a pound of vinegar in the morning, another at noon, and the third at sunset, and the man was speedily and perfectly cured.

Mechanics' Department, Arts, &c.

Healthful Buildings. — The following remarks are from an article by T. S. Bell, M. D., contained in the July number of the Western Medical and Surgical Journal. It is founded on an address by A. H. Stevens, M. D. After remarks upon the immense amount of sickness and death caused by a culpable neglect of the plain laws of health, enforced by a startling array of facts concerning the prevalence of disease in particular dwellings and localities, to which the "plague district" in Louisville adds a fearful chapter, Dr. Bell proceeds with the following suggestions: —

We cannot quit the important subject without calling attention to the important facts contained in the appendix of Dr. Stevens's address. These facts are connected with the sanitary construction of country dwellings, ventilation, drainage, &c., and bear on subjects on which medical men are often questioned,

and on which they should be prepared to give correct information. We present a synopsis of the valuable views given in this appendix; they are in accordance with the time-honored observations of the fathers of medicine and their successors, and many of these facts were well known to the classical writers of Greece and Rome.

1. The site of a country dwelling should be chosen in reference to its height above the adjacent grounds, its exposure, its drainage, and the quality of its water. Springy grounds should be avoided. If there is a marsh, or any other source of malaria, the house should be to the westward of it, because westerly winds are most prevalent. In all countries the winds are purifiers of the air. If there is a belt of wood between the house and the swamp, it should be left as a protection against malaria. If there is none, a screen of pine or other dense growing trees should be planted; such trees as will attain a height of at least twenty feet. (In the absence of evergreens, we consider the *pawlonia imperialis* the best tree for this purpose. It will grow from twelve to fifteen feet in a season, if it has a good soil; its limbs are compact, the leaves very large, and it is one of the most beautiful of all flowering trees. — *Ed. Jour.*) If there is any reason why water should gather around the foundation of the house, a drain should be cut so as to prevent it. Dry foundations prove the dryness of the contiguous grounds. A well near a house affords a good drainage; the deeper it is the better. Trees should not be left too near the house, nor should rank herbage be permitted to grow and decay in the immediate vicinity.

2. When there are no sufficient reasons for another preference, a south-easterly aspect is the most healthy for a residence. Trees on high land on the north-west are a protection in the winter. Whatever the aspect of the house, the south side should have its full share of windows. Southerly windows are the most pleasant in winter, and are unobjectionable at all other seasons.

3. The cellar should be dry, clean, well ventilated, and well lighted. No wood nor decaying vegetable matter should be placed about the cellar. It should communicate with the air above the house by a flue in the chimney stack. In default of this, it should be ventilated by lateral apertures. If any part of the cellar is floored, the air should be drawn from beneath the floor into a chimney flue. Chimney flues should be round, for bituminous coal. Tredgold says, the diameter of the flues in inches should be equal to the square root of the height in feet; thus, fifty feet high would require ($7 \times 7 = 49$) seven inches.

4. Every bed-room, especially if small and without a chimney flue, should have a ventilating aperture not less than four inches square, communicating with the attic above, and led through the roof by a proper conductor, except in cases where the door of another room can be left open; in this case the ventilation is sufficient. No bed-room should be on the ground floor. But rooms on the second floor are healthful, those in the attic still more so. (Universal observation proves the truth of these views. — *Ed. Jour.*)

5. Piazzas, used as sitting places in summer and autumnal evenings, except those on the southerly or westerly sides of houses built of stone or brick, are unhealthful. Stone or brick walls retain the heat of the afternoon sun until a late hour at night. A veranda with windows is not liable to the same objection. It is essential that a house shall be well lighted by the sun.

6. The windows and chimney of a room represent a siphon, with one branch perpendicular, and the other horizontal. The air should enter the doors and windows, and rise in the flue. Dr. Arnott, of England, has invented a self-acting valve, which prevents a back current.

7. A fire in damp weather during the autumnal evenings, and even in the cool evenings of summer, is exceedingly healthful. If there is absolute necessity for a lower bed-room, a fire in the early part of the evening should always be made during the sickly season. It ventilates the room, brings in fresh air, and dries the air thus introduced. *Dry air is not a vehicle for malarious emanations.*

8. A sitting-room should be well lighted by the sun's rays.

9. A tallow candle deteriorates the air rapidly, and when not snuffed, the deterioration is still greater. Gas is less vitiating. The burning of a tallow candle raises, in one hour, the temperature of twenty-seven meters of air from the freezing to the boiling point of water. A carcel lamp, in one hour, raises from the freezing to the boiling point fifty cubic meters of air. These facts will enable any one to judge of these sources of heat and vitiation in crowded and well-lighted apartments.

10. Collections of persons in a room vitiate the air by emanations from the bodies, and from respiration. Ten cubic feet per minute is the amount necessary for the healthful respiration of one person. This should be doubled in bed-rooms, and fourfold for sick-rooms. Irregular draughts of air may be prevented by making the air enter the room through wire, cotton, or silk gauze.

11. Upper apartments are safest against malarious diseases, but most dangerous for diseases arising from emanations from the bodies of the sick.

12. The dangers of low, undrained lands, and of fogs from such localities, are well known. Drainage removes these dangers. It has been found that drainage in England has elevated the temperature on some occasions six degrees, and evening chills are no longer experienced in well-drained localities. In New York, the temperature is said to have been raised fifteen degrees by drainage. Thus comparative immunity is afforded, not against marsh fevers only, but cholera, rheumatism, and acute inflammatory diseases. "In the statistical account of Scotland are found, among many others, the following notices of the great advantages derived from draining: In Fourdown, 'so much drainage that now no sickness; formerly, agues common, now quite unknown;' in Carmylie, 'health improved from drainage; Kennon agues very prevalent sixty years ago, now never met with;' and a long chapter is filled with similar statements from all the rural districts of England and Scotland. But why look abroad? In Onondaga valley, New York, health is much improved by its drainage, and the experience of every one will supply facts in illustration.

"It is not sufficient to dry only the surface of the ground by drainage, in order to prevent effectually the formation of miasmata; it is essential that the drainage should be deep and thorough, for the poison may emanate from moist decaying vegetable matter below."

13. The modern art of engineering employs new and cheaper means than were formerly used for draining. I allude to the substitution of small pipes for large drains, from the discovery of the fact that they are less liable to become obstructed, provided they have a descent of not less than one per cent. of their length.

"Now, it is proved that whilst house drains of such sizes and construction as have been enforced by the commissioners of sewers, accumulate deposit, drains of a much smaller size keep perfectly clear. Thus, whilst a twelve inch drain, which is required by the Kent and Surrey, and the tower hamlets and the city commissioners, accumulates deposits, and generates noxious gases, a tubular earthen-ware

drain, of nine times less capacity, or of four inches in diameter, or proportional to the house, of from three to six inches, keeps perfectly clear. Even three inch drains convey away the refuse from middle-sized houses, and keep perfectly clear, whilst the larger permeable brick drains, which are usually charged three times the price, are choked up."

"Mr. Roe, the surveyor of the Holborn and Finsbury district of sewers, who led the way in systematic improvements in the form and construction of main lines of sewers in the metropolis, recently, at our suggestion, made experiments on the rate of flow of water through the common brick drains for houses, as compared with the rate of discharge through earthen-ware drains of the same capacity, and with the same run of water. The general results which he gives are, that, through the earthen-ware tubes, the rates of discharge are increased to an important extent: in the smaller and more frequent forms to the extent of more than a third. In other words, an economy of one third the quantity, to obtain the same result, is effected by them, and the general efficiency of the drainage in ordinary runs proportionately augmented, as will appear, at a greatly reduced price.

"The following are examples: —

"*Table of Comparative Run of Water through Brick Drains and Glazed Pipes.*

Inclination.	Depth of water.	Time through glazed pipes.	Time through brick drains.
Level	5 inch.	38	50
2 inch. in 50 ft.	4½ "	16½	25
1¾ " "	5½ "	19	27
2¼ " "	3 "	18	26
1½ " "	3½ "	25	36
3¼ " "	4 "	15	22
2¾ " "	6 "	13½	21½

—*First Rep. Met. San. Com'rs.*"

Mr. Caldwick, of London, has received, from Switzerland, a pipe which has served for drainage five hundred years without injury or obstruction, under the pressure of a great head of water.

These are facts of great value, and should be well and strongly impressed upon the public mind. We have been intending to prepare a set of rules on these subjects; but Dr. Stevens's suit our views so well, that we prefer using his. There is but one defect in them, and that is the absence of all reference to filth and uncleanness. Families that have dirtier habits than a free hog (and there are many such) may attend to all the thirteen rules given above, and still be sickly. If there is any one vice for which society should extend no pardoning gifts, it is the wickedness of uncleanness. Those guilty of it should have no vernal bloom nor autumnal fruits to bless their cheerless filth. — *Family Visitor.*

OVER-CROPPING.

This is the leading vice of agriculture in this portion of the Southern States. The small and neat farm — that is, the farm small enough in all its arrangements for the management of the force which cultivates it — is the "angel's visit" of Southern husbandry. One meets with but few such farms, and meets with them far apart. Instead of farms where every thing appears in complete order and arrangement, one often meets with those widely-spread tumble-downs, where disorder and derangement are tumbled together in every variety of condition; and this arises principally from over-cropping. The maxim of agriculture, that the productions of the earth must ever be in proportion to the tillage, seems generally to be neglected, or not known in this part of the state; for, to frame a maxim from the system mostly pursued, the productions of the earth are in proportion to the quantity of surface to which the appearance of tillage can be given. In every department of agriculture, our whole section of state is in a condition of comparative infancy. Can it be said that the production of any article is carried up to the capability of the soil and climate? The farmer who throws into the shape of cultivation a wide surface, which he merely ploughs and hoes, while his mind is as free as vacancy from any thought about the nature of the soil, which he takes as nature gives it, and of the different circumstances of climate that may weary his labors and shorten his crops through the existence of some radical deficiency in the soil, or in the system of culture, may say he raises what he consumes, and sometimes what he sells; but he owes to God more thanks for a good season than he owes to himself for the exercise of skill and judgment. To obtain as much as possible from the number of acres one man can cultivate, and to cultivate no more than may be made to yield the most profitable quantity it is capable of yielding, should be strictly regarded by every farmer as the worthiest object of his study and his labor; for the best course of preparation, the best adaptation of soil which the manœuvres of cultivation can oppose to the vicissitudes of climate, and the perfect quantity and best quality of that quantity per acre, must remain unknown and unenjoyed until we become content to cultivate less space, and to exert in the premises more practical science and experimental knowledge. A heavy crop from a high state of fertility and cultivation, is always the only advantageous one. It shows the skill and industry, properly applied, of the farmer who produces. It shows the practicable extent of agricultural development. In short, it is an example creditable and profitable to him who exhibits it — worthy of imitation and rivalry, and highly beneficial to the agriculture of the state. No farmer complains of this kind of a heavy crop; it is a real benefit, and a source of much pleasure. But a crop which is a heavy crop because it occupies a greater number of acres than the cultivator can manage, under a system of culture thoroughly adapted, is commonly no better than the wilful cultivator of such deserves to have. — *Mobile Herald and Tribune.*

ACCLIMATIZING EXOTIC PLANTS.

Let no one imagine he will successfully acclimatize an exotic plant without paying strict regard to the circumstances of the plant in its native habitat; such, in part, as situation, aspect, elevation of site, temperature, humidity, time of flowering, seasonal changes, &c.

These circumstances must be all more or less studied by whomsoever would successfully acclimatize exotic plants. A plant may be a native of a country warmer than our own in some degree, yet if its native situation be a moist height, or shady mountain side, we should undoubtedly do wrong in placing it in a dry, hot, sheltered situation in this country.

On the other hand, a plant may be a native of a colder country than our own, yet if its native situation be a sunny, sheltered, and dry one, and its season of flowering late, it would surely be wrong and profitless cultivation, in this country, to place it in a dull, damp situation; which, were we to look to the only one circumstance of its coming from a colder country, we would naturally do. Again, a plant may be, or may seem to be, from such a cool or native habitat, as to feel our summer sun too strong and

scorching for it, and accordingly require shading from its too powerful beams; while we must not, on the strength of that circumstance, conclude that the plant will stand our winter's rigor without protection. We must first learn whether it be a native of the northern or southern hemisphere; if of the latter, that will account for its inability to withstand our summer's sun at a season when, though it be summer with us, it would be winter with the plant in its native habitat; and, its nature not being changed with its situation, it is only harassed by our summer's sun, at a season when it should have and strive to enjoy its winter's rest; therefore it cannot withstand our winter's rigor at the season appropriated to it by nature for its summer of excitement. Were it not for this circumstance, there is no doubt that the half-hardy *Sollya Heterophylla*, *Billarderia Longiflora*, &c., would be among our hardiest wall plants.

These are circumstances the acclimatizer must well attend to, ere he plant out a single exotic; and next, and of equal importance, the soil in which the exotic is placed, be its richness or its poorness what it may, must be of an open, free, unretentive texture, and well drained. Such exotics, in general, as are natives of boggy or marshy places, can only be kept well over winter in felt-covered pits or frames, or at the bottom of ponds fed by springs. The plant must be started into a fine and rapid growth in spring and early summer, so as to have its growth completed and properly ripened before winter, when a covering of as dry and impervious a nature as possible must be laid over its roots, and around its base, or *life knot*, so as to exclude alike the frosts and the moisture of our changeable winters. If the bole or branches of such plants receive any protection, it ought to be of a nature more to exclude moisture than air, which is often useful in the severest winters. By observing these simple and easy rules, I have never found much difficulty in having stout and abundant flowering specimens of such, generally considered greenhouse, as *Wistaria Sinensis*, *Maurandya*, *Barclayana*, *Jasmines* of all kinds, &c. On various aspected walls, in many and cold parts of Scotland, they do well for years; where others of a much more hardy nature, but differently treated, died during the winter, these plants survived. — *Annals of Horticulture.*

PEAT AS MANURE.

In the report of the New York County (New Brunswick) Agricultural Society, we find some useful observations on the value of peat as manure, by Prof. Robb, of Fredericton, a gentleman of high standing as a geologist and chemist. He gives three modes by which this substance may be advantageously used for the improvement of soil, as follows: —

1. It may be carted to the barn-yard and spread all around, so as to absorb all the liquid manure, which it will do like a sponge; not only will it soak up and fix liquid and gaseous matters, which would otherwise be lost, but it will thereby take on a state of fermentation itself, which will result in its becoming soluble and proper for the food of crops. When one layer is soaked and fermented more or less, it must be renewed or replaced by fresh stuff from the bog, which will thus become a permanent benefit to the farm.

2. The peaty substance may be advantageously composted and brought to a soluble form thereby. If three loads of half-dried peat earth be mixed with one of stable manure, (green,) there will be formed four loads of manure equal to cow dung itself, for the ordinary root and grain crops. A layer of dry peat should form the base of the compost heap, then a layer of green manure, then alternate layers of peat and manure, ending with a *thick* layer of peat. If ashes be added, or if the heap be occasionally watered with urine, decomposition will be more rapid, and the compost be more fertilizing. In six weeks, more or less, according to the season, the heap may be shovelled over, and then carried on to the field, where its effects are equal, if not superior, to the same quantity of common dung. It may be applied to any soil deficient in vegetable matter, and in any way, exactly as if it were well rotted yard manure. By ashes alone, the peaty earth may be likewise converted into the food of plants; but I believe it is best to use them as above directed.

3. The peat may be burnt in the fields, for its ashes, which are applied with very good effect as a top-dressing to meadows, at the rate of forty or fifty bushels to the acre. — *Albany Cultivator.*

THE RESULT OF SKILL AND INDUSTRY.

I have traversed the great Erie Canal, from one end to the other; floated on the waters of the Ohio Canal, and returned to the sea-shore by the Pittsburg and Pennsylvania canals and railroads. What a magnificent excursion! What mighty triumphs of art and labor are here! What a moving of the affections! What an expanding of the imagination! How many beautiful and splendid visions have floated before the mind, which were surpassed by the great realities! Here were deep basins excavated, and noble and long-stretching embankments, which rivalled the neighboring hills. Here were rivers, hundreds of miles in length, flowing at man's pleasure, and in channels formed by his hands. Here were streams crossing streams, on beautifully arched aqueducts. Here were mountains of granite pierced through and through, and a passage opened through the heart of adamantine barriers, for vehicles freighted with human life. Here were deep inland oceans, mingling their waters with the mighty sea that sweeps from pole to pole, bearing upon their quiet tides ten thousand floating and deeply-laden arks, myriads of human beings, active in the pursuit of business or pleasure; accumulations of wealth from the deep and tangled recesses of the forest, now first springing into life under the touch of civilization, from the glittering fields of polar ice, and from the shores of the Western Ocean; accumulations whose growing extent defies all calculation. All this, too, is the work of a little animal of the ordinary height of sixty inches, with only two feet and two hands, and of an average duration of less than twenty years — his mighty implements, a hoe, a pickaxe, and a spade! Such are the results of intelligent, concentrated, persevering labor. — *Henry Colman.*

CROPS IN SOMERSET COUNTY.

We make the following extract from a private letter, dated at Cornville. We are glad to hear that the crops are coming on so finely, and take this opportunity of once more recommending to our brother farmers the cultivation of winter wheat. We are receiving every day the most favorable accounts of this crop, from every part of the state, and there is every reason to believe that, should the seasons prove favorable, it will soon be the most profitable crop that a farmer can raise. After a few words concerning other matters, our correspondent says, —

"Some subjects touched upon in your paper, especially 'winter wheat,' hit our case, at present, to a

nicety. We sowed a bushel last year; a part of it on old corn ground, and the rest on burnt land. The burnt land yielded the most, but it was smutty. One of our neighbors raised this year the greatest crop ever known in this town. He sowed only two bushels on as many acres of land, and from what he has threshed, he judges he shall obtain from seventy-five to eighty bushels. It was the 'Banner wheat.' I just write this to let you know that we can raise wheat in Somerset, as well as they can in Kennebec or Aroostook. Somerset is '*right side up*' in *these* matters, if in no others; all we have got to do is to sow the seed, and we are up with you; and this is just what farmers are doing now. Every one has sown a little, and some have sown from four to six bushels apiece"

The above speaks well for the crops of next season, and we think that if the seed be well sown, there need be no doubt of a good yield the coming year.—*Maine Farmer.*

LIVE POSTS—WIRE FENCES, &c.

Under the caption of "Wire Fences," in the June number of the Agriculturist, I see a statement that a wire fence has been built for $200 per mile, sufficient to turn cattle, horses, &c. Cheap as this may appear, I think I can offer a plan of constructing a fence sufficient to turn cattle, at a far less cost, say $10 or $12 per mile, which, if it prove practicable, would be some saving.

The plan I propose is, to procure about eight quarts of long-leaved pine seed, and sow them on a breadth of land where the fence is wanted, not exceeding two feet in width. There is no danger of getting them too thick; the thicker the better; say as thick as you would sow buckwheat, I should think might answer. They will require the cattle and other stock to be kept from them for about four years, but will need neither cultivation nor attention of any kind, except to destroy the worms, which will be likely to attack some of them, in the month of June, in the second, third, and fourth years, after which, they will be out of danger of worms and stock; and, by the sixth or seventh years, cattle could not force their way through them, and if they come thick enough, there will be but little danger to be apprehended from animals of the smaller kind.

I have a pine thicket now growing, not sown, however, with design of fence, in many places of which a sucking pig of a few weeks old could not pass between them, and I infer, if the pines will grow so close without arrangement, they would do the same with. The above is a theory based upon observation. You can take it for what it is worth; but I intend to put it into practice the coming winter, to some extent. Should it prove practicable to make a fence of this description, large farms could be enclosed with it without much loss, especially when land is cheap, and a great deal of waste land, or commons, might be enclosed.

In regard to live posts for wire fence, it occurs to me that pines would be better adapted than any other kind of wood, as they would grow large enough in a few years; and I think the turpentine would prevent corrosion of the wire. Should this prove correct, I think there could be nothing more suitable; for they are rather more a fertilizer than exhauster of poor land, at least, and I think they would add to the beauty of the farm. Fancy to yourself a farm handsomely laid off with rows of evergreens at intervals of forty or fifty feet in a row. Do you not think it would be an improvement on the zigzag fence of the present day? As for the ground occupied, wheat, I think, would grow up to the very roots of the tree. I have just harvested wheat five feet high, within the distance of a common cart track from a row of pines, in places thick enough for fence themselves. Corn is growing on the opposite side, and looks quite healthy within a few feet of the trees. This row is about one eighth of a mile in length, sowed with the design of seeding an old field, which the introduction of guano has saved the trouble. I now intend to thin it out on the plan above proposed, and insert wires with a handsaw, and hope to make a formidable fence.

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—*American Agriculturist.*

Remarks.—At an agricultural meeting, a few years since, at the State House, Mr. Sheldon, of Wilmington, recommended the preceding plan of pine hedges for fences, and stated facts in regard to the rapid growth of pines under his own observation that favored this plan for fences. One advantage is the growth of pines for timber or fuel, if wanted for these purposes, after the trees become large. — Ed.

RECOGNITION OF VOICE BETWEEN THE EWE AND THE LAMB.

The acuteness of the sheep's ear surpasses all things in nature that I know of. A ewe will distinguish her own lamb's bleat among a thousand, all braying at the same time. Besides, the distinguishment of voice is perfectly reciprocal between the ewe and the lamb, who, amid the deafening sound, run to meet one another. There are few things that have ever amused me more than a sheep-shearing; and then the sport continues the whole day. We put the flock into a fold, set out all the lambs to the hill, and then set out the ewes to them as they are shorn. The moment that a lamb hears its dam's voice, it rushes from the crowd to meet her; but, instead of finding the rough, well-clad, comfortable mamma, which it left an hour or a few hours ago, it meets a poor, naked, shrivelling — a most deplorable-looking creature. It wheels about, and uttering a loud, tremulous bleat of perfect despair, flies from the frightful vision. The mother's voice arrests its flight — it returns — flies, and returns again, generally for ten or a dozen times before the reconcilement is fairly made up. — *Lay Sermons, by the Ettrick Shepherd.*

RUTA BAGA TURNIPS.

Mr. Editor: I wish to offer a few remarks relative to the most profitable method of feeding the ruta baga to stock. It has generally been the custom with farmers, and I presume still is so, to *cut* the roots, and feed them to the various animals raw. A machine, however, has recently been invented, by which these roots are reduced to a finer and much more eligible condition for feeding, and in less time than it requires to cut them. The machine by which this is effected is called a "rasping machine," and is so constructed that roots of all sizes are at once reduced to a soft, pultaceous mass, very nearly resembling pumpkin when prepared by the "gude vrow" for pies. In this condition it requires no mastication by the animals of consequence, and may be mixed with facility with chopped or "chaffed" straw, cornstalks, or coarse hay, all of which are eagerly partaken of when mixed with it, by almost every kind of animal except the hog, on the farm. Horses will "rasp" their own food; all that is necessary being to place the large roots in their mangers, with no further previous preparation than merely to see that they are carefully cleansed and freed from dirt. If one has

much rough fodder to dispose of, he cannot, provided he has root crops of any kind, do better than to purchase one of these machines. It will pay for itself in one year, beside adding greatly to his own convenience and the comfort of his stock.

A LOWER-MERION FARMER.

— *Germantown Telegraph.*

POTATO ROT AGAIN.

We have accounts from all parts of New England, from some parts of New York, and from several of the British provinces, stating that the potato rot prevails in the greatest degree of virulence that has ever been known. Probably in no country has it ever been so severe at any period.

It is said that in the neighborhood of Portsmouth, N. H., where potatoes were sold last year to the amount of $100,000, there will not be enough for home consumption. We are informed that in Northampton, in that state, where the sales of potatoes amounted to $14,000 last year, it is estimated that there will not be half enough for home use.

It is stated that in one section a ten-acre lot of potatoes was offered for $10. In another case a three-acre lot was offered for seventy-five cents. A farmer, who had a lot of several acres, offered a dollar to any one who would find a sound potato in the lot. A man took his hoe, and searched for a while, and gave up the pursuit.

In short, we should judge, from what we have seen and heard, that in many sections, and probably in New England generally, there are not now so many sound potatoes as were planted. Many farmers say that they have not so many as they planted. In some cases, potatoes that were planted early, attained a good growth, and were dug before the rot commenced, have kept well; in other cases of the kind, they have nearly all decayed.

This disease is a very serious calamity to the country, for the potato is by far the most valuable of vegetables, and perhaps of more importance as an article of necessity or luxury, or as a staple in commercial transactions, than all other vegetables. Those farmers who have gone extensively into the culture of this root, depending on its sales to pay their expenses for labor, will be much affected by their heavy losses.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

From Dr. Holmes, editor of the Maine Farmer, *Thompson's Favorite* apple. It is large and beautiful, resembling the Gravenstein in appearance, but in the same climate it would ripen a month earlier. It appears to be of excellent quality, but it was rather too ripe for us to form a correct opinion. Dr. H. thinks that it is equal, if not superior, to the Williams apple, and it ripens about the same time. Raised from seed by a Mr. Thompson, of Mercer, Me.

Of Samuel Walker, Roxbury, president of the Mass. Horticultural Society, a variety of specimens of fine pears. Mr. Walker cultivates a very extensive assortment of this fruit, and is testing almost every variety, foreign and domestic.

Of Andrew Lackey, Marblehead, a great variety of plums, specimens of pears, &c. Among the plums is the beautiful Jefferson. The St. Catharine is a small plum, but a great bearer, and excellent fruit.

Of John Washburn, some fine specimens of early quince, of the apple form, probably his excellent seedling from the apple quince.

From J. S. Sayward, editor of the Courier, Bangor, Me., M'Laughlin plum, in prime condition. We are pleased that this variety more than sustains the high reputation that has been given to it. We tried this fruit, with some friends who are among the best judges, and we all considered it fully equal to the Green Gage, which, as to quality, seems, in the opinion of many, to be unrivalled. It is much larger than the Green Gage, and a better grower; and as we had this fruit from a region so much further north, fully ripe, before the Green Gage was gone here, we think that it will ripen enough earlier than the Green Gage, to form a succession with it. Mr. Sayward says that it ripens about the time of the Imperial Ottoman, which is an early plum, specimens of which we have also had of our friend. They are beautiful, of excellent flavor, and well adapted to a northern climate. Also, Penobscot plums, which are of good size, and fine appearance; but the quality is only medial, like a large number now in cultivation.

From John M'Wales, Milford, fruit and scions of Wales's Velvetine peach, a new seedling raised by him, of the highest character. Although this fruit was picked before quite ripe, in order to send with the scions, yet it ripened well, and was among the very finest that we have tasted this season. One specimen was kept six days, and yet was excellent. The size of those we received was medial, but Mr. W. says that they are generally large; the form roundish, with a deep suture on one side; the ground color a golden yellow, mostly covered with a deep, rich red, of a beautiful velvety appearance; the flesh a deep yellow, with a tinge of red next the stone, very tender, juicy, sirupy, and luscious. The stone is small, but as the specimens we had were picked before fully ripe, we could not determine whether it was a freestone. It usually ripens about the 20th of September.

From Col. E. Hale, Rock Bottom, Hale's Melocoton peach — the same that is described in the American Fruit-Book. This peach is uniformly good, very rich, and among the finest raised in the country. It produces the same from the seed. We have many young trees in our nursery, all perfectly uniform.

From D. Merrill, 2d, Methuen, large, fine-looking grapes, raised without culture; but the flavor is too much of the wild or foxy taste to be valuable, as better kinds are getting into use.

From O. V. Hills, Leominster, apples without a name. They are large and fair, and an excellent cooking apple; but as they come in early in September, when fine peaches, pears, and plums are plenty, they are not fine enough for a dessert fruit. We do not know the name.

From John Copp, Wakefield, N. H., a variety of fruit — not all correctly named. The sweet apple, as supposed, is the Sweet Bough; very large, fine specimens. This is the best very early sweet apple cultivated. It succeeds well in different climates and locations. The specimen marked Jewett's Red, is the Gravenstein, and one of the finest and most beautiful apples cultivated. It is of a large size. Williams apple is correctly named, but very small. It needs a strong, rich soil, and high culture, to give it large size and fairness. It is hard to raise, but when perfect, very handsome and salable. One cultivator in this vicinity has put a cart-load of manure around a tree yearly, and he has sometimes sold the fruit for five or six dollars a barrel. One year he sold the fruit from one tree for forty dollars. It is not worth raising under common culture. The plums are the Washington, as marked, a pretty good, luscious plum, but not of the highest character, and it is rather apt to rot, and only a moderate bearer. The pears marked Beurre d'Aremberg are not correct, as it is a winter pear, and these were over ripe, so that they could not be recognized. The other pears were decaying.

From friend J. Oliver, Lynn, Mexico apple, which is of a good size, very handsome, and of excellent flavor, but we are sorry to say that on large trees, and in the nursery, it is a very poor grower. It originated in Canterbury, Ct. It is good for the private garden, but will not be profitable for market.

From J. L. Lovering, Hartford, Vt., specimens of two varieties of pears. One is very large, fair, and handsome, and we very much regretted that so noble-looking, hardy fruit should be of inferior quality. It may sell pretty well in the market, as this is the case with the old Bell or Windsor pear, which is of poor quality. But the purchaser ought to have good fruit, and the cultivator will eventually find it the most profitable. The time is coming, and it has already arrived in regard to some kinds, when fruit will be so plenty, none but the good will sell. Also Udall's Seedling pear. This fruit is remarkably fair, and of a very hardy appearance. It is but little inferior to the Bartlett, and some persons have preferred it to that popular variety. As it was ripe in Vermont early in September, it would ripen here in August, and precede the Bartlett. We think that for general culture, particularly in the north, it will prove a valuable variety, more especially as many kinds that flourish here, fail in colder regions. Both of these pears were raised from seed, by Col. Lionel Udall, of Pomfret, Vt.

From John Cummings, Woburn, several very large, handsome, and excellent varieties of peaches, among them George the Fourth, a very popular variety.

From Leonard Cheney, Southbridge, scions of a new and unusually early peach. Friend Earle, of the Worcester Spy, speaks very highly of this variety, both as to its quality, and extra earliness. Also the Cheney peach. This fruit has attracted particular attention at Worcester horticultural show, and the committee have commended it very highly. We find it one of the finest fruits both in appearance and quality. It is large, (a dozen sent to Mr. Earle last year averaged over ten inches in circumference,) roundish; whitish-yellow, with a beautiful red cheek in the sun; flesh greenish-white, extremely tender and melting, juicy, rich, and delicious. The quality is first-rate. The stone is small and free. It is remarkable that the original tree, now standing where it came up, on cold, wet land, within fifteen feet of a cold brook, has produced over two bushels of excellent fruit this season. It usually ripens about the middle of September.

We have several other lots of fruits, which we have not room to notice in this number.

POULTRY EXHIBITION.

We would call the attention of our readers to the advertisement of the poultry show, on our cover. The splendid hall selected for this purpose affords peculiar advantages, more especially if the weather should be unfavorable. We like that feature in the exhibition, by which a part of the proceeds of the show shall be distributed in premiums and gratuities, giving due encouragement to exhibiters.

THE OLD FARMER'S ELEGY.

On a green mossy knoll, by the banks of the brook
That so long and so often had watered his flock,
The old farmer rests in his long and last sleep,
While the waters a low, lisping lullaby keep:
He has ploughed his last furrow, has reaped his last grain;
No morn shall awake him to labor again.

The bluebird sings sweet on the gay maple bough;
Its warbling oft cheered him while holding the plough;
And the robins above him hop light on the mould,
For he fed them with crumbs when the season was cold.

Yon tree that with fragrance is filling the air,
So rich with its blossoms, so thrifty and fair,
By his own hand was planted; and well did he say,
It would live when its planter had mouldered away.

There's the well that he dug, with its water so cold,
With its wet dripping bucket, so mossy and old;
No more from its depths by the patriarch drawn,
For the "pitcher is broken" — the old man is gone!

And the seat where he sat by his own cottage door,
In the still summer eves, when his labors were o'er,
With his eye on the moon, and his pipe in his hand,
And dispensing his truths like a sage of the land.

'Twas a gloom-giving day when the old farmer died;
The stout-hearted mourned, the affectionate cried,
And the prayers of the just for his rest did ascend,
For they all lost a brother, a man, and a friend.

For upright and honest the old farmer was;
His God he revered, he respected the laws;
Though fameless he lived, he has gone where his worth
Will outshine, like pure gold, all the dross of this earth.

— *Knickerbocker.*

STEREOTYPED AT THE
BOSTON STEREOTYPE FOUNDRY.